

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 FEAE-00 OES-03 NEA-09 XMB-02 OPIC-03 AF-06

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8188

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 284

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EEC

SUBJECT: FURTHER STEPS IN ORTOLI'S PROGRAM FOR A MORE POSITIVE  
ROLE FOR THE EC COMMISSION

REF: EC BRUSSELS 267

1. COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI HAS NOW INAUGURATED A WORK PROGRAM TO CARRY OUT THE PLANS ANNOUNCED IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL) FOR NEW COMMISSION INITIATIVES TO MOVE THE EC AHEAD. HE HAS DESIGNATED SPECIFIC COMMISSIONERS TO PREPARE PROPOSALS BY LATE MARCH OR EARLY APRIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION. AMONG THE SPECIFIC AREAS TO BE COVERED ARE THE FOLLOWING: (1) SOCIAL MEASURES SUCH AS UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE, JOB TRAINING AND INCOME REDISTRIBUTION; (2) AN ENERGY FUND TO PROMOTE SUBSTITUTES FOR OIL IMPORTS; (3) RESTRUCTURING INDUSTRY THROUGH INVESTMENT INCENTIVES; (4) NEW EC INSTRUMENTS FOR EXPORT CREDITS AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH; (5) EXPANDING ASSISTANCE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; (6)

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AN EC UNIT OF ACCOUNT BASED ON A BASKET OF EUROPEAN

CURRENCIES; (7) FOREIGN INVESTMENT GUIDELINES, ESPECIALLY REGARDING EQUITY PARTICIPATION BY OPEC INVESTORS; AND (8) LONG-TERM PLANS FOR EUROPEAN MONETARY UNION AND EUROPEAN UNION (THE TINDEMANS EXERCISE). (THE ABOVE LIST MAY NOT BE COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED.)

2. THE INDUSTRIAL DIRECTORATE GENERAL IS ALREADY COLLABORATING WITH THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR THE INTERNAL MARKET ON A PAPER FOR ORTOLI SUGGESTING: (A) A TRIANGULAR (EURO-OIL PRODUCER-LDC) AID DEVELOPMENT BANK; (B) A TRIANGULAR FUND FOR RAW MATERIAL INVESTMENTS; AND (C) AN EC EXPORT/IMPORT BANK TO SUPPLEMENT MEMBER STATE EXPORT CREDIT FACILITIES.

3. SEVERAL COMMISSION OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ABOUT THE ORTOLI PROGRAM, POINTING TO THE BUREAUCRATIC IMPEDIMENTS WHICH MUST BE OVERCOME EVEN WITHIN THE COMMISSION, AND TO THE UNLIKEIHOOD THAT MEMBER STATES ARE AT THIS TIME INTERESTED IN ANY SIGNIFICANT INITIATIVES. SOME OF THE IDEAS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT UP MANY TIMES ALREADY WITHOUT ANY POSITIVE RESPONSE FROM MEMBER STATES.

4. INCREASINGLY ORTOLI HAS PLAYED A "SPOKESMAN FOR EUROPE" ROLE AND SOME CYNICS SEE THIS LATEST MOVE AS RELATED TO ORTOLI'S DIMMED PROSPECTS FOR A RETURN TO HIGH OFFICE IN FRANCE. THE CHANCES OF ANY OF THE ORTOLI PROGRAM GETTING THROUGH THE HEAVY COMMUNITY MACHINERY DEPEND IN LARGE PART ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE "EUROPEAN SPIRIT" IS REVIVED ONCE THE UK "RENEGOTIATION" ISSUE HAS BEEN SETTLED. AN OPTIMISTIC VIEW THAT "POLITICAL EUROPE BEGINS IN 1975" HAS BEEN PUT FORWARD BY JEAN REY (SEPTTEL). GREENWALD

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